

Trees on Maine Street

∞ *The Project Canopy Bulletin* ∞



January—February 2013

Project Canopy Awards Community Forestry Grants

AUGUSTA – Project Canopy recently awarded more than \$100,000 to 21 projects in 19 Maine communities to support local forestry efforts.

A collaboration between the Maine Forest Service and GrowSmart Maine, Project Canopy is the State's urban and community forestry program. It is funded by the USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Program, a national initiative designed to strengthen the connections between people and their environment.

Project Canopy grants support sustainable community forestry management, increase awareness of the benefits of trees and forests and improve the health and livability of communities through sound tree planting and maintenance. Project Canopy also provides education, technical support and additional resources to communities, schools and non-profits.

Topsham, Yarmouth, Portland and South Portland are among the communities committed to enhancing their community forests through sound planning. Portland has not had a complete inventory of its trees since the early 1900s.

"It's important for communities of all sizes to know what trees are part of the public infrastructure," said Jan Santerre, Project Canopy coordinator with the Maine Forest Service. "A complete inventory will be incredibly helpful during storms and routine maintenance, so staff can access tree information right when a call comes in. Maps of tree locations, species, size and condition can also help the community better plan where and what trees to plant for the future community forest."

Project Canopy also awarded grants for tree planting and maintenance, street tree planning and education and town forest stewardship to Kittery, Camden, Cape Elizabeth, Lewiston, Bath, Calais and Georgetown. Other grant recipients include Carrabassett Valley, Freeport, Brownville, Sangerville, the Lewiston and Auburn Watershed Protection Commission and the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve.

In Bath, 71 students from the Bath Middle School will use the funds to plant an orchard of apple and pear trees on school grounds. "The CORE program [Classroom for Outdoor Research and Education] will provide apples to the school cafeteria, create a living classroom for future learning and give the school a shared responsibility that all can take pride in fulfilling," said Jason Meserve, a science teacher at the school. "We hope to establish a foundation for understanding and appreciating urban and community forestry that students can bring into their lives outside of school."

The Maine Forest Service is a division of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

For more information about Project Canopy, visit www.projectcanopy.me/ or contact Jan Ames Santerre (207) 287-4987.

PROJECT CANOPY

assists communities and nonprofit, grassroots organizations in building self-sustaining urban and community forestry programs with strong local support.

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"I frequently tramped eight or ten miles through the deepest snow to keep an appointment with a beech-tree, or a yellow birch, or an old acquaintance among the pines."

- Henry David Thoreau, 1817 - 1862

News and Updates

Invasive Forest Insect Update: Winter Moth

In December, the Maine Forest Service (MFS) sent out a request request for moth flight information to pinpoint where in Maine there might be impending winter moth infestations (Our native moths stop flying at the end of November when the temperatures drop into the teens). Over 130 samples were sent in plus that number again in phone calls and emails. People in Maine care about their trees.

MFS dissected male winter moths for positive identification as they are very similar to our native Bruce spanworm moths. Virtually all the moths that could be identified - some were too damaged to use - were winter moth. Interestingly, the vast majority of moths can go through the postal cancelling machine and still be identified.

Cape Elizabeth is the new 'hot spot' for winter moth. Portland, Scarborough, South Portland and Peaks Island (which had some defoliation in 2012) are also high on the list in Cumberland County. York and Kennebunkport in York County had a number of positive samples. Winter moth is now detected from Kittery to Rockland plus two towns on Mount Desert Island and a number of off-shore islands - including Matinicus Island, 20 miles out to sea. There are 33 towns in seven counties with the invasive winter moth confirmed. Most of the towns with winter moth hug the coast with Lyman and Gorham the most inland towns. Defoliation from the invasive winter moth was first found in Harpswell and Vinalhaven in 2012 with a report of a moth flight from Harpswell in 2011.

We can hope that colder temperatures inland will keep winter moth populations down, but at this point we do not know how far they can spread.

For more information go to: <http://www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/InvasiveThreats.htm#wm>

Award of Achievement to Conservation Commissions

Congratulations to the Maine Association of Conservation Districts and 78 town conservation commissions in Maine. They received the 2012 Award of Achievement from the Maine Chapter of the Wildlife Society. The award recognizes individuals, groups, organizations, businesses, or industries that have consciously made significant contributions to wildlife management or conservation in Maine.

Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Program now Accepting Applications

The Five Star/Urban Waters Restoration Program seeks to develop community capacity to sustain local natural resources for future generations by providing modest financial assistance to diverse local partnerships for wetland, forest, riparian and coastal habitat restoration with a particular focus on urban waters and watersheds. The National Association of Counties, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Wildlife Habitat Council, in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, USDA Forest Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Southern Company, FedEx and others, are pleased to solicit applications for the 2013 Five Star/Urban Waters Restoration Program. For more information visit: http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Charter_Programs_List&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&CONTENTID=26237



New Digital version of ALB Guide: Asian Longhorned Beetle and its Host Trees

The digital version of the new Forest Service/University of Vermont publication entitled *Asian longhorned beetle and its hosts trees* is available on the Northeastern Area website at: <http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/alb/alb-and-host-trees-09-12-2012-screen.pdf>

"It's the flock, the grove, that matters. Our responsibility is to species, not to specimens; to communities, not to individuals."

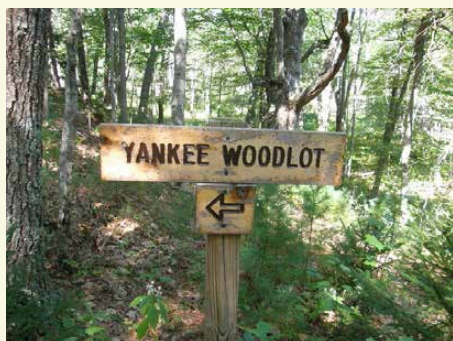
- Sara Stein, 1998, Author of *Noah's Garden*

A Demonstration Forest in Coastal Maine: Educating Visitors about Forest Stewardship

- adapted from the [Forest Matters Newsletter](#)
[January 2013](#)

The Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve (WNERR) in coastal Maine houses the Yankee Woodlot—a demonstration forest for woodland owners and others interested in forest stewardship. One of the goals in the Forest Habitat Management Plan at the WNERR is “re-establishing the Yankee Woodlot Demonstration site, a 34-acre patch of forest, as a visual demonstration of small woodlot management practices that both provide income from forest products and enhance wildlife and water resources”. The Yankee Woodlot also recently received a Project Canopy grant for educational signs, which will be a great help in explaining the woodlot’s management objectives and activities to the casual visitor.

There are many demonstration forests scattered throughout New England, and all serve an important function in the education of woodland owners and other interested people. They provide opportunities to teach others about many current forest issues such as growing quality saw timber, wildlife habitat, biodiversity, climate change, riparian management, and others. Educating our youth about forest management is a special opportunity for the use of these forests that could involve, for example, the Envirothon and Project Learning Tree activities. There are many opportunities to increase the number of these demonstration forests in areas where they do not currently exist.



WITCH-HAZEL *Hamamelis virginiana* L.

Witch-hazel occurs as a small tree or shrub in most parts of Maine except in the far north. It is found on borders of the forest in low rich soil or on rocky banks of streams. The bark is gray-brown and somewhat scaly on older stems. The leaves are alternate, broadly obovate, nonsymmetrical at the base, and have a wavy margin.

It has bright yellow flowers with thread-like petals in autumn or early winter. The fruit is a woody capsule, usually two in a cluster. The seeds are discharged fiercely when ripe. The twigs are gray, zigzag, with gray or rust-colored hair and scalpel-shaped buds. An extract from the bark is mixed with alcohol and used as an astringent.



"Each generation takes the earth as trustees. We ought to bequeath to posterity as many forests and orchards as we have exhausted and consumed."

- J. Sterling Morton

"The forests are the flags of nature. They appeal to all and awaken inspiring universal feelings. Enter the forest and the boundaries of nations are forgotten. It may be that some time an immortal pine will be the flag of a united peaceful world."

- Enos A. Mills

Find us on the web at projectcanopy.me, on Facebook at facebook.com/ProjectCanopy or on twitter [@ProjectCanopy](https://twitter.com/ProjectCanopy)

Community Wrap-up

Great Idea for Tree Protection in Presque Isle

Presque Isle city Code Enforcement Officer George Howe discovered a great idea to help protect trees from plows and other equipment during the long winters. Working with MFS District Forester Dave Rochester and others to secure a grant through Project Canopy as part of their downtown revitalization project. The idea was to construct protection devices to be placed around each of the city trees, a metal buffer if you will. Dave said that at least a 100 of them were put in place and have done their job well. They were built by Haines MFG CO, INC. for a reasonable price. They also replaced and added to the main street/community park tree inventory. Please refer to the picture to get an idea of size etc. Good



job to Dave, George and others in Presque Isle for a great idea and job well done.

Big Tree Registry in York County

York County Soil and Water Conservation District is launching an appeal to nominate the largest trees in York County, some of which may be state champions. Details coming soon.

To read the latest Forests for Maine's Future Newsletter

<http://www.forestsformainesfuture.org/new-from-the-woods/>

Crane Safety Workshop: The Maine Arborist Association has recently learned that OSHA is now requiring companies, that utilize cranes for tree removal, must now have a certified personnel for crane signaling and rigging, on site.

A local crane service company recently gave notice that OSHA was out checking on tree crew crane qualifications. OSHA had stopped by a site that the crane service was on and discovered that the crew lacked the proper certifications. Everyone on site was unaware of the changes. This law is new and the fine was hefty.

The MAA is ahead of the curve and is offering a half day workshop for this certification. On January 24th, 8am to 12pm, Dave Wacker of the Maine Department of Labor will sponsor a Crane Safety workshop for Maine arborists. The location will be the Maine Department of Labor building at 45 Commerce DR, Augusta, ME.

This is a first come first serve event, limited to 50 participants. The cost will be \$20 for MAA members and \$30 for non-members. This invitation is for all Maine licensed arborists. In the event we exceed 50 persons, we will plan a second workshop for a later date.

You must pre-register to attend and walk-ins will not be permitted.

So please mark your calendars and register now!

[Click here to register for the Crane Safety Workshop](http://www.forestsformainesfuture.org/new-from-the-woods/)

Calendar

January

17 Wildlife of Alfred, Alfred Town Hall

26 Woodland Owners 101, North Berwick Community Center tapsdch@metrocast.net or 793-8886.

30 Current Use Property Tax Programs

for Farm and Woodlot owners and communities, Springvale

February

5 Forest and Backyard Insects of Camden, Camden Garden Club

7 Insects & Diseases of Maine Trees, Wiscasset Garden Club

15 Weeds Bugs and Coffee Mugs, Mt Desert. Gale Ross (207) 287-2793

"Going to the woods is going home."

- John Muir

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

Maine Forest Service

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